

# Japanese Garden @ Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant

## Mission

Every organization should have a mission statement—a succinct description of the organization's basic purpose, including the nature of the work to be carried out, the reason it exists, and the constituencies it intends to serve. The following suggested mission statements blend elements of L.A. Sanitation's LASAN's overall mission statement, LASAN's stated objectives for the Japanese Garden/Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant, and core values expressed by Japanese Garden Advisory Committee and other stakeholders:

### Suggested Mission No. 1

*Our mission is to create and maintain the Japanese Garden as a serene visual, horticultural, and aesthetic experience and positive example environmental stewardship for the people of the San Fernando Valley and the entire City of Los Angeles.*

### Suggested Mission No. 2

*The mission of the Japanese Garden is to interface with the public to provide a cultural and educational venue through an authentic Japanese artform garden of tranquility and use of recycled water in its lakes and streams.*

### Suggested Mission No. 3

*The mission of the Japanese Garden is to provide a transformative, educational, and inspirational experience.*

Examples of mission statements from organizations with similar objectives:

#### **Portland Japanese Garden (Oregon)**

*Our mission is to bring the ideals of the Portland Japanese Garden to the world: art of craft, connection to nature, experience of peace.*

#### **Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens (South Florida)**

*Our mission is to engage a diverse audience by presenting Japanese cultural experiences that educate and inspire.*

#### **Chicago Botanic**

*We cultivate the power of plants to sustain and enrich life.*

#### **Shofuso Japanese House and Garden (Philadelphia)**

*To preserve, maintain, present, and interpret Shofuso, a traditional Japanese house and garden, and promote intercultural understanding through public programs about Japanese arts and culture.*

## Vision

The vision statement is related to but clearly different from mission statement. Its purpose is to convey the ideal future for the organization—what it hopes to become in the eyes of its stakeholders and staff. The vision statement should inspire those in the organization to achieve its goals and articulate the organization's preferred future and desired results. An indication of the Japanese Garden's original vision may be found in its name, ***Suiho En***, which translates to *sui* (water), *ho* (keep), *en* (circle) and refers to the importance of recycling life-giving water.

### *Suggested Vision No. 1:*

*A place of sustainable beauty that projects serenity and engages and educates the public.*

### *Suggested Vision No. 2:*

*A nationally important haven of peace, natural beauty, and tranquility that promotes a deeper understanding and appreciation of how water can enhance and support life.*

Examples of vision/values statements from similar organizations and public gardens are as follows:

#### **Portland Japanese Garden**

Cultural authenticity directed to the needs of diverse local, national, and international communities.

#### ***Shofuso Japanese House and Garden (Philadelphia)***

We envision providing the neighborhood, the region and the world an opportunity to experience Japanese culture, tranquility, and peace of mind.

#### **Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens (South Florida)**

The vision of the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens is to: Be a leading destination for experiencing Japanese culture outside of Japan; present opportunities for transformative personal experiences; and be a leader in community engagement operating as a public-private partnership.

#### **Chicago Botanic**

Core Values:

- People live better, healthier lives when they can create, care for, and enjoy gardens;
- Beautiful gardens and natural environments are fundamentally important to the mental and physical well-being of all people;
- The future of life on Earth depends on how well we understand, value, and protect plants, other wildlife, and the natural habitats that sustain our world.